

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Patent Application of Ansgar Behler, <i>et al.</i>	:	Group Art Unit:
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I.A. Number :	PCT/EP2003/013978	:	Examiner: Unknown
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I.A. Filing Date:	December 10, 2003	:	Confirmation No.:
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For:	METHOD FOR PRODUCING HYDROXYCARBOXYLIC ACID ESTERS	:	Attorney Docket No.: C 2680 PCT/US
		:	
Customer No.:	23657		

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination of the above-identified national stage application pursuant to the accompanying submission under 35 U.S.C. §371, please amend the International Application transmitted by the International Bureau, without prejudice, as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.